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**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP**

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

**CRAIG D. JOHNSON  
MATTHEW R. HACKWORTH  
DAVID W. WANG**

Serial No.: 10/054,337

Filed: January 22, 2002

For: **BASE-PIPE FLOW CONTROL  
MECHANISM**

Confirmation No.: 4747

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Zakiya Nicole Walker

Attorney Docket: 2032.007700/DCD  
(68.0233)

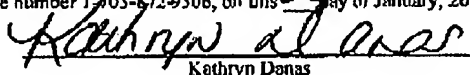
CUSTOMER NO. 23720

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116;  
RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 8, 2003**

**MAIL STOP AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION  
37 C.F.R. § 1.6(d)**

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to MAIL STOP AF, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, facsimile number 1-703-872-9306, on this 28 day of January, 2004.

  
Kathryn Donas

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered in the captioned patent application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Applicants submit the foregoing amendments to place the case in even better condition for allowance or appeal.

This paper is submitted in response to the final Office Action dated December 8, 2003, for which the three-month date for response is March 9, 2004.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks to the Office Action** begin on page 10 of this paper.

If an extension of time is required to enable this paper to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this paper is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to this document, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Williams, Morgan & Amerson, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0786/2032.007700DCD.

Reconsideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

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|----------------------------|---|---------------|------------------|
| <b>To:</b>                 | Examiner Zakiya Nicole Walker<br>Group Art Unit: 3672 | <b>From:</b>  | Kathryn Danas    |
| <b>Fax:</b>                | 703-872-9306  | <b>Phone:</b> | 713-934-4076     |
| <b>No. of<br/>Pages:</b> * | 12  | <b>Date:</b>  | January 29, 2004 |
| <b>Re:</b>                 | Serial No. 10/054,337                                 | <b>File:</b>  | 2032.007700      |

☐ **Urgent**   ☐ **For Review**   ☒ **For Your File**   ☐ **Please Reply**   ☐ **Please Handle**

\* w/ coversheet

**ORIGINAL:**   Will follow   **XX** Will not follow• **Comments:****CONFIDENTIALITY NOTE**

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